

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the rejections set forth in the Final Office Action mailed November 14, 2006, is respectfully requested. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 1-19 remain pending. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification at, e.g., Figs. 13 and 14, and paragraph [0230]. Therefore, this amendment was made without introducing any new matter.

Art Rejections

Claims 1-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Kokish et al. (USP 6,485,500). Claim 1 is now limited to the steps of “*removing the therapeutic catheter*” and “*advancing an infusion catheter to a location distal to the stenosis after the step of removing the therapeutic catheter.*” Kokish does not teach or suggest the step of advancing an infusion catheter to a location distal to the stenosis after the step of removing the therapeutic catheter. In fact, Kokish requires that his distal blocking catheter, which opens “so as to release the inflation fluid to jet or stream proximally away from the distal inflatable balloon,” be advanced and in place before use and removal of the therapeutic catheter. Kokish therefore teaches away from the claimed subject matter.

Claim 1 is therefore patentably distinct from Kokish. Claims 2-19 depend from claim 1 are thus patentably distinct for the same reasons applicable to claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections and reconsideration of the claims as amended.

Favorable action on the merits of the claims is therefore earnestly solicited. If any issues remain, please contact Applicant's undersigned representative at (949) 760-9600. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required to Deposit Account No. 50-2862.

Respectfully submitted,
O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP

Dated: February 14, 2007

By: John Kappos
John Kappos
Reg. No. 37,861
Attorneys for Applicants

DKW/cp

O'Melveny & Myers LLP
610 Newport Center Drive, 17th Floor
Newport Beach, CA 92660-6429